

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 81 incl. and 88, (cancelled).

82. (currently amended) A postal envelope system comprising: an outgoing envelope and a reply envelope contained within said outgoing envelope, wherein said envelopes each have a mail-to address and a return address printed thereon,

an originating sheet, covering said outgoing envelope, having said addresses printed thereon,

each of said addresses on said outgoing and said reply envelopes being vertically below a corresponding address on said originating sheet when the envelopes are held in a horizontal plane,

coating means contiguous to said reply envelope for applying said addresses on said reply envelope when said addresses are printed on said originating sheet [[.]],

said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of said outgoing envelope.

83. (previously presented) The postal envelope system of claim 82, wherein said system is for use with postal equipment that contacts said envelopes to feed said envelopes through a postal envelope processing system that utilizes feeding mechanisms that contact said envelopes at mechanism contact points up to approximately one and a half inches from a bottom edge of said envelopes, and a delivery point barcode positioned on at least one of said envelopes and spaced from said mechanism contact points.

84. (previously presented) The postal envelope system of claim 83, wherein barcodes are on both the outgoing and reply envelopes at positions spaced from said mechanism contact points.

85. (previously presented) The postal envelope system of claim 82, comprising:

 said originating sheet comprising a selectively carbonized bond of a first weight,

 said outgoing envelope comprising a selectively carbonized bond face sheet of a second weight,

 a selectively carbonized bond billing statement sheet of said second weight,

 said reply envelope having a face sheet, comprising a register bond of a third weight positioned on top of,

 a reply envelope having a back sheet comprising a register bond of a fourth weight positioned on top of,

 said outgoing envelope having a back sheet of a register bond of said fourth weight.

86. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 85, in which:

 said first weight being twelve-and-a-half pound bond,

 said second weight and said billing statement, being sixteen pound bond,

 said register bond face sheet of said reply envelope being twenty four pound bond,

 said fourth weight being twenty pound bond.

87. (currently amended) A business method using a postal envelope system, said method comprising:

providing said postal envelope system with an outgoing envelope having mail-to and return addresses,

providing said outgoing envelope with a reply envelope, located inside the outgoing envelope, which also has mail-to and return addresses,

providing said envelopes with adjacent contrasting colors including a rectangular area whose color is relatively light and a contiguous area that is relatively dark, and

printing said addresses in said relatively light colored areas, and

passing said envelopes through a postal system that has machine reading equipment for reading said printing on said envelopes
[[.]],

said step of providing said outgoing envelope with a reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

passing said first envelope through said machine, at a post office, that processes envelopes.

89. (currently amended) A business method using a postal envelope system that has a machine for processing envelopes, said method comprising:

providing a first envelope having printed first mail-to and return addresses,

providing said first envelope with a second envelope for reply having printed mail-to and return addresses,

said step of providing a first envelope comprising providing two sheets of paper each of which sheets has four edges and wherein both sheets are of about the same size and shape and are attached together along three of their four edges, one of said edges being a right-hand edge,

~~passing said first envelope through said machine, at a post office, that processes envelopes,~~

~~said step of passing said envelope through said machine comprising entering said right edge into said machine prior to the time than any of the other said edges enters said machine,~~

reinforcing said right-hand edge to thereby reduce the possibility that said ~~machinery~~ machine will seriously damage the first envelope, and thereby rendering said right-hand edge stronger than said other edges,

said step of providing sheets attached and reinforced along the right-hand edge comprises gluing sheets together along their right-hand edges.

90. (currently amended) A postal envelope system, comprising:

an outgoing envelope, and

a reply envelope contained within said outgoing envelope,

said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of

said outgoing envelope,

 said outgoing envelope having a right-hand edge, a left-hand edge, a top edge and a bottom edge, said right-hand edge being stronger than the other said edges.

91. (currently amended) A postal envelope system, comprising:

 an outgoing envelope having a front side and a back side,
 said front side having an upper end and a return address adjacent said upper end,
 said back side having a lower end,
 means adjacent said lower end, for opening said envelope, a reply envelope located in said outgoing envelope,
 said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of said outgoing envelope,

 said reply envelope having a lower end that is open when the reply envelope is in the outgoing envelope,
 a flap on said reply envelope for closing said open end,
 said flap being positioned closely adjacent said means when the reply envelope is in the outgoing envelope.

92. (currently amended) A postal envelope as defined in claim 91, in which said means is a tear strip,

 said front side having a left edge and a right edge,
 said tear strip having an end adjacent said left edge that may

be pulled toward said right edge to open the outgoing envelope.

93. (currently amended) The method of printing information on an envelope system, comprising:

providing an outgoing envelope having an upper edge and a bottom edge,

providing a reply envelope inside of said outgoing envelope,
said step of providing said reply envelope comprising
providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing
envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to
the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing a reply envelope comprising providing said reply envelope with a top end that is adjacent said upper edge of said outgoing envelope,

providing a cover sheet that has an upper and lower edges,
positioning said cover sheet in face to face contact with said outgoing envelope,

printing the customer's name and address near said upper edge of said cover sheet, and

providing a carbonized area contiguous with an area of said reply envelope that is near said top end of said reply envelope so that the customer's address that was printed on said cover sheet will appear near said upper edge of said reply envelope.

94. (currently amended) The method of claim 93, comprising:
providing a removable billing statement in said outgoing
envelope,

providing a carbonized area adjacent a portion of said billing
statement to enable printing of said customer's name and address on
said billing statement.

95. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as
defined in claim 91, in which said means includes a tear strip having
a free end adjacent the lower left end of said back side so that said
free end may be pulled toward the lower right end of said back side
to open the envelope, whereby the direction that said tab is pulled
is opposite to the direction that the outgoing envelope passes
through the postal service's processing machinery.

96. (currently amended) A postal envelope system adapted to
go through the processing machinery of the postal service,
comprising:

an envelope having a front side and a back side,
said front side having an upper end and a return address
adjacent said upper end,
said back side having a lower end,
[means adjacent said lower end, for opening said envelope,]
means adjacent said lower end, for opening said envelope,
said means having a free end movable from a position adjacent the
lower left end of said back side toward a position adjacent the lower
right end of said back side to open the envelope, whereby said free

end is pulled, during the opening of the envelope, in a direction opposite to the direction that the envelope goes through the processing machinery of the postal service.

97. (currently amended) A method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

providing a plurality of sheets,
attaching at least some of said sheets together to form an outgoing envelope, and a reply envelope contained within said outgoing envelope,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising
providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing
envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to
the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing sheets including providing an originating sheet that is on top of said outgoing envelope,

providing each of said originating sheet, said outgoing envelope and said reply envelope with areas for printing the addresses of the sender and of the addressee of the outgoing envelope and areas for printing the addresses of the sender and of the addressee of the reply envelope,

positioning a carbonized area over each said area of each said envelope,

positioning said areas of said sheets, so that when the address of the sender of the outgoing envelope is applied to the originating sheet by impact printing it will appear as the sender of the outgoing envelope and the addressee of the return envelope,

printing said addresses on said originating sheet.

98. (currently amended) The method of claim 97, wherein postal equipment ~~contacts said envelopes to feed~~ feeds said envelopes through a postal envelope processing system and makes contact with said envelopes at contact points up to approximately one and a half inches from a bottom edge of said envelopes, and printing a barcode on at least one of said envelopes positioned in spaced relation to said contact points.

99. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system as defined in claim 93, in which said printing step includes printing a FIM mark on said cover sheet, [[and]]

said step of providing a front side comprising providing a sheet having a front face and an inside face, with an opaque area on said inside face and behind where a FIM mark may be printed, and
providing a carbonized area for reproducing said printed FIM mark on said reply envelope.

100. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

providing an outgoing envelope with a reply envelope in the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

providing a first area of said outgoing envelope for the sender's address,

providing a second area of said outgoing envelope for the addressee of the outgoing envelope,

providing a first area of said reply envelope for the address of the sender of the reply envelope,

providing a medium contiguous with said first area of said reply envelope for applying the address, of the sender of said reply envelope, to said reply envelope,

providing a second area of said reply envelope for the addressee of the reply envelope,

providing a medium contiguous with said second area of said reply envelope for applying the addressee of the reply envelope to that envelope,

providing a third area of said reply envelope for the FIM mark,

providing an opaque area on the inside of said reply envelope and behind said third area so that the FIM mark may be accurately read,

providing a medium contiguous with said third area for applying said FIM mark to said reply envelope.

101. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system as defined in claim 100, in which each of said first and second areas of said outgoing envelope have a medium contiguous thereto enabling the impact printing to apply said addresses to first and second areas of said outgoing envelope.

102. (previously presented) An envelope comprising first and second sheets attached together and defining a pocket between said sheets,

 said first sheet having inside and outside faces,

 said first sheet having one or more areas on which information may be printed, on the outside face of said first sheet,

 said first sheet having a solid opaque area on its inside face and directly behind each said area of said outside face, and

 means on the inside face of said first sheet for providing security screening of all of the area of said inside face that does not have an opaque coating.

103. (currently amended) An envelope as defined in claim 102, which may be scanned by postal processing equipment, and in which:

 said envelope and said opaque area comprising means for preventing the contents of said envelope from being mistakenly scanned by said postal processing equipment.

104. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

 providing an outgoing envelope containing a reply envelope and a billing sheet,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising
providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing
envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to
the outgoing envelope,

printing information on said outgoing envelope and causing that information to be printed on said billing sheet,

providing said billing sheet with a line of weakness so that it may be readily torn apart into first and second pieces,

said printing step printing billing information including the name and address of both the sender and the receiver of said outgoing envelope on one of said pieces and the name and address of said sender and receiver on the other one of said pieces.

105. (previously presented) A postal envelope as defined in claim 82, in which said outgoing envelope has a top edge and a bottom edge, and also in which said reply envelope has an open end adjacent said bottom edge.

106. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 105, in which said reply envelope has a flap for closing said open end.

107. (currently amended) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 82, in which said outgoing envelope and said reply envelope each have a top edge, said top edges being adjacent each other,

an originating sheet covering the outgoing envelope and also having [[an]] a top edge, said originating sheet having first and second areas both adjacent said top edge for said mail-to and said return addresses respectively,

said originating sheet also having third and fourth areas for said mail-to and said reply addressees respectively.

108. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 107, in which said outgoing envelope has a bottom edge and also in which said reply envelope has an open end adjacent said bottom edge.

109. (currently amended) An envelope comprising first and second sheets attached together and defining a pocket between said sheets,

said first sheet having inside and outside faces,

said first sheet having one or more areas on which information may be printed, on the outside face of said first sheet,

said first sheet having a solid dark opaque area on its inside face and directly behind each said area of said outside face.

110. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 91, wherein said means and said flap are both relatively narrow as compared to the distance between said upper and lower ends.

111. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 92, in which said tear strip is relatively narrow as compared to the distance between said upper and lower ends.

112. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 82, in which:

said originating sheet having four addresses thereon,

two of which addresses are the mail-to and return addresses

for the outgoing envelope,
and the other two of which addresses are the mail-to and
return addresses for the return envelope.